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Kernan Announces Individual Development Account Awards for 22 Hoosier Organizations

INDIANAPOLIS — Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that 22 community-based nonprofit organizations have been approved to offer 218 new Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) to Hoosiers across the state.

The IDA program, administered by the Indiana Department of Commerce's Community Development Division, encourages low-income residents to save money. Under the program, for every \$1 the account holder sets aside, the state contributes \$3. The maximum state contribution to an individual account is \$900 per year.

"Indiana is committed to providing more opportunities for low-income residents, and the IDA program is one example of how this can be done," said Kernan, who serves as the director of the Indiana Department of Commerce. "It is important that we emphasize the importance of good financial planning, and we are proud to offer this program as a way to help working Hoosiers prepare for the future."

To participate in the IDA program, a resident must receive public assistance or have an annual income at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty level. The state funds may be used for the following four purposes:

- To pay expenses for higher education or vocational school
- To learn a trade by attending an accredited or licensed training program
- To start or expand a business
- To buy a home

Only nonprofit organizations that are committed to the provision of housing, community-based economic development projects or social services are eligible to offer IDAs. The state awards the accounts to organizations after a competitive application process. All 22 of this year's recipients have previously participated in the IDA program.

To encourage private support of the IDA program, each year the state offers a maximum of \$200,000 in tax credits for private contributions to the program. Individuals and private entities that contribute between \$100 and \$50,000 to an IDA participant organization may receive a tax credit of 50 percent of the amount contributed. During this round, 222 tax credit accounts – valued at 540 tax credits each – were awarded to six organizations that offer IDAs.

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Individual Development Accounts/add 1

For more information on the IDA program, contact Robin Shackelford in the Office of Community Assistance at 317.233.0541, or visit the Web site at www.indianacommerce.com.

City of Location	Organization Name	# of State Awarded Accts.	# of Tax Credit Awarded Accts.
Aurora	Southeastern Indiana Economic Opportunity Corp.	2	0
Bedford	Bedford UEA	3	0
Bloomington	South Central CAP	3	15
Columbus	Eastside Community Center	0	20
Elkhart	Elkhart Housing Partnership, Inc.	2	0
Evansville	Community Action Program of Evansville	20	0
Ft. Wayne	Living Word of God Ministries	13	0
Ft. Wayne	Project Renew	3	0
Goshen	LaCasa of Goshen, Inc.	17	40
Indianapolis	Concord CDC	0	5
Indianapolis	John H. Boner Community Center	30	0
Jeffersonville	Community Action of Southern Indiana, Inc.	30	132
Lafayette	Lafayette Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.	0	10
Logansport	Area Five Agency on Aging and Community Services	5	0
Marion	Affordable Housing Corp.	17	0
Muncie	Action, Inc. of Delaware & Grant Counties	5	0
Muncie	Muncie Homeownership & Development Center	27	0
New Albany	Interfaith Community Council, Inc.	3	0
South Bend	South Bend Housing Authority	13	0
Valparaiso	Housing Opportunities, Inc.	6	0
Vincennes	Vincennes Homeownership Inc.	2	0
Warsaw	Combined Community Services	17	0

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